

# DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

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## Who Was George H. Coomer?

By S. E. Wallen

### PART III

George H. Coomer the Writer of Serials and Books



DIME NOVEL SKETCHES NO. 176

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## Who Was George H. Coomer?

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### PART III

#### George H. Coomer the Writer of Serials and Books

Looking over the fireword, "To the Reader," of George H. Coomer's 1851 "Miscellaneous Poems," the date line and place name stood out suddenly as a faint hope for missing information; "Warren, R. I., March, 1851."

Why not write to the Department of Vital Statistics at Warren and ask if there was any record of the Coomer family name, even though one hundred and twenty-three years had elapsed since the date on the book of verse? All other sources of information had failed, and certainly there was nothing to lose if they had no records on file to share. So off went the inquiry, explaining the little that was known about George H. Coomer and expressing the need for any small scrap of information.

Within a few days a most helpful response came from Mr. Charles H. Alfred, City Clerk of Warren, Rhode Island. (See date and name of Coomer's birthplace in Part I of this article.) Not only was Mr. Alfred kind enough to quote from the death record in his own files, but he included a copy of the obituary that appeared in the *Warren Gazette*.

With definite information in hand, it was interesting to find the following paragraph in the book version of "The Young Whaler" by George H. Coomer:

"Living in a Rhode Island country town he (the hero, Mortimer Blount—see remarks under book listings later) had learned something from the newspapers concerning the business carried on in the seaports of his native State. Providence, though strong in her merchant marine, had only three or four whalers; Newport about as many; but Bristol and Warren had whaleships by the score; and in either of these towns, there must be at almost any time a chance for a voyage."

Here, indeed, was evidence that fiction is often autobiographical!

In the listing of story titles to be found in *Golden Days* (see Part II) was "Half-Mast" of Vol. II, #9, 2/5/1881. It was quite by accident that we found an explanation of this title in the book: "The Boys in the Forecastle."

"She remembered father, brothers, cousins, dismal letters of death, and ships that came up the bay with the flag at half mast . . ."

This seems to be a clear indication that Coomer did draw on his own observations and experience to write his stories; no wonder there was such a ring of truth to convince his young readers—if you could not go to sea yourself, this may have been the next best thing.

Most of the serial length stories, if not all, appeared in book form after being published in continued parts in magazines.

Suppose we look at the record of the tales in serial form:

**ARTHUR SUMMERS; or, A BOY AMONG THE WHALES** appeared in Vol. III of *Golden Days*; James Elverson of Philadelphia, Pa., publisher. Its thirty chapters began in #41 dated September 16, 1882 and ended in #51 of Novem-

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ber 25, 1882. It had a second run (reprint) in Vol. XXV, #3 of November 28, 1903 and ended in #13 of February 6, 1904.

The second serial has a rather unusual pattern, especially as we consider it in book form later.

**THE BOYS IN THE FORECASTLE, A TALE OF REAL SHIPS AND REAL SAILORS**, appearing first in *Golden Argosy*, a Frank A. Munsey of New York publication, beginning in Vol. I, #33 dated July 21, 1883. *Golden Argosy* apparently did not reprint their serials in their weekly publication. But, to anticipate a bit, Munsey did use some of them in his "Munsey's Popular Series for Boys and Girls." These were monthly paperback complete novels, similar to Street & Smith's Medal Library, etc., which Munsey priced at 25¢ per issue.

**IN SEARCH OF HIMSELF: A TALE OF DANGEROUS ADVENTURE** first appeared in *Golden Days*, Vol. III, in thirty-three chapters beginning in #22 of 4-30-1887 and ending in #33 of 7-16-1887.

In Vol. XXI, #18 of 3-17-1900, the editorial page promises, with no reference to an earlier run: "The initial chapters of an extremely entertaining serial will be given Next Week, **IN SEARCH OF HIMSELF. A TALE OF DANGEROUS ADVENTURE**, by George H. Coomer.

"It is written in the author's happiest vein, and in the many pleasures and perils of the hero, Ralph Weston, and Camilia Arthur, there is no lack of interest. The main events of the story take place during the stormy days of the Cuban rebellion which prevailed during the ten years from 1868 to 1878. These events are doubly interesting now, in the view of the recent struggle in which the country achieved the independence of Cuba, for which the natives had so long struggled in vain. All through the story there is much to charm and instruct every boy and girl who reads the remarkable history of their lives on that summer island." (This girl character, Camilia Arthur, is the one mentioned in "The Letter Box" back in 1887 (as) "a noble character, and our girl readers will doubtless feel highly delighted in following her fortunes.")

This is one of the serial stories that has not been discovered in book form, at least not under the original title, but even so, it must have been of sufficient popularity to rerun in Vol. XXI beginning with 3-24-1900 and ending 6-9-1900. Either of sufficient popularity or editorial NEED to fill issues!

**THE DISPUTED TITLE. or, PERSERVERANCE UNDER DIFFICULTIES.** was first printed in *Golden Days* the same year as the previous serial. This ran in Vol. III beginning with #49 of 11-5-1887 and ending with #8 of 1-21-88. The thirty-eight chapters were printed again in Vol. XXIV, beginning 4-25-1903 and ending in the issue of 7-11-1903. (Since this reprint appeared after Coomer's death, it strengthens the idea that publishers purchased stories outright to be used as their own property, rather than on a contract basis as of today, with special terms and usages agreed to.)

When known, the number of chapters in a continued story is mentioned. If and when the same title is found in hard-cover book form, it could be helpful in deciding if any rewriting or other changes have been made. Unfortunately, at the present time, it has not been possible to actually find and study all the stories either in serial form or book format.

As we look a little later at the publication of Coomer's stories in book form, it will appear as though manuscripts were a commodity that must have been sold by publishers as their property, since we see again and again the same titles turning up over the imprint of various publishers—this, of course, is what was suggested parenthetically in the record of **THE DISPUTED TITLE** above.

**THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAINS: or, THE RAILROAD AMONG THE ANDES** is first found in *Golden Argosy*, Vol. VI, beginning with #33 dated



7-14-1888. Its history as a book, discussed a little later, may be of interest. **THE YOUNG EXPLORERS: A TALE OF LAND AND SEA.** Was also a **Golden Days** serial, from Vol. IX, beginning with #51 of 11-17-1888 and ending with #7 of 1-21-1889. It was repeated in Vol. XXI, #49 of 10-19-1901 and ending with #5, 12-14-1901.

**WITH THE WORLD BEFORE HIM. A TALE OF ADVENTURE ON THE SEA AND IN STRANGE LANDS.** This was in The Holiday Publishing Company's **The Boys' Library** Vol. I, Nos. 1 to 15, 1-14-1890 to April 22, 1890. (See Book notes.)

**MORTIMER BLOUNT, or THE WORLD BEFORE HIM.** This is found in Street & Smith's **Good News**, Vol. V, from 10-8-1892 to 1-23-1893. (See note under book listing of "The Young Whaler.")

**THE BOYS IN THE FORECASTLE. A STORY OF REAL SHIPS AND REAL SAILORS,** begins this time around in Street & Smith's **Good News** of 6-12-1897 and after that magazine ceased publication, is completed in Street & Smith's **Army and Navy Weekly** in the issue of 8-7-1897.

To recapitulate Coomer's published serials:

1882—Arthur Summers; or, A Boy Among the Whalers. (Repeated 1903-04)

1883—The Boys in the Forecastle. A Tale of Real Ships and Real Sailors. (Repeated in 1897)

1887—In Search of Himself: A Tale of Dangerous Adventure. (Repeated 1900)

1887—The Disputed Title; or, Perseverance under Difficulties (Repeated 1903)

1888—The Old Man of the Mountains; or, The Railroad Among the Andes.

1888-1889—The Young Explorers; A Tale of Land and Sea (Repeated 1901)

1890—With the World before Him. A Tale of Adventure on the Sea and in Strange Lands.

1892-1893—Mortimer Blount; or, The World Before Him.

1897—The Boys in the Forecastle. A Story of Real Ships and Real Sailors.

**Golden Days** discontinued publication with Vol. XXVIII, #27 of May 11, 1907. Again and again, in response to inquiries about their serials in "The Letter Box," they assured their readers that they were not making these stories available in book form. Research confirms this, no **Golden Days'** continued story title has been found in book format under their imprint. Some other publisher may have bought the rights to its use as a book and changed the title. This is not very probable, but a point difficult of proof at this time.

If any collection (or collector has access to) has complete files of the magazines mentioned in our serial listing, together with copies of the various book titles to be listed, it might be decided when and if titles or stories, or both, had been changed. That not being possible for this account, suppose we quote the opening paragraphs of three serials. If you have additional sources than those mentioned here, either in weekly or monthly publications, or in book form, it may be helpful in determining whether much has been reprinted, or if there are entirely new and different stories which have been overlooked.

**The Disputed Title:** "It was the Otway family in transit—the father and mother, with their twin boys, Harold and Edward, aged sixteen."

**In Search of Himself:** "It was a wild windy night in October, and young Mrs. Weston, in her cottage by the Schuykill, had retired to bed with a feeling of extreme depression. True, she was not alone in the house, for it had other inmates—kind hearts, ready to protect and comfort—but she was alone in spirit. Only a few weeks had passed since she had laid her sweet baby boy asleep forever, and it was of him that she was thinking." (A golden haired boy, about nine months of age, is abandoned in Mrs. Weston's home and they call the child Ralph Weston.)

**The Young Explorers:** "The hues of early morning were reflected upon the



surface of the North Pacific, and it lacked a few minutes of sunrise . . . An American boy of seventeen, named Winchell Armsted, had the watch at the main, while Paul Markoff, a young Russian, was at the fore."

Here is a book check list that raises a number of interesting speculations: 1851—"Miscellaneous Poems."

Printed in Boston by George H. Coomer himself.

Could this be a collection of earlier verse published in the **Boston Cultivator**?

1887—"The Boys in the Forecastle; A Story of Real Ships and Real Sailors."

(a) No. 3 of Munsey's Popular Series, sold at 25c, November, 1887.

(b) 1890, in hard cover: International Book Company, crediting Copyright 1890 by John W. Lovell Company. On cover: "St. Nicholas Series for Boys and Girls." No advertising of other titles bound in.

(c) Street & Smith's Medal Library, No. 75. 1900.

1891—"The Old Man of the Mountains."

Leather-clad Tales, No. 40, U. S. Book Company, 1891.

(From Library of Congress, listing of Catalog of Printed Cards. Book not seen. Probably should be read to assure it's not being an old serial retitled. See "The Old Man of the Mountains; or, The Railroad Among the Andes," as a **Golden Argosy** serial.)

1887—"The Mountain Cave; or, The Mystery of the Sierra Nevada."

(a) Munsey's Popular Series, No. 1, August, 1887.

(b) Hard back—"New York/John W. Lovell Company/150 Worth Street /Corner Mission Place." No printed date, but copy in our collection has been rubber stamped in a number of places by a former owner:

"G. N. C.  
North Wales, Pa.  
Feb. 5, 1894"

Title page carries title and "by George H. Coomer Author of 'The Boys in the Forecastle, etc. etc.'" (This has never been found as a serial.)

1890—"With the World Before Him. A Tale of Adventure on the Sea and in Strange Lands." Street & Smith's **The Boy's Library** No. 1, January 14 through April 22, 1890. (See Mortimer Blount—"The Young Whaler," which follows:)

1903—"The Young Whaler. A Tale of Adventure on the Sea and in Strange Lands."

Hard cover: A. L. Burt Company Publishers, Copyright, 1903, "with illustrations by J. Watson Davies."

This edition in hard cover appears to be in the collections of the Library of Congress, The Free Library of Philadelphia, and our own collection.

The hero's name is Mortimer Blount. See listing of the serial "Mortimer Blount; or, The World Before Him" published in Street & Smith's **Good News**, Vol. V, 1892-1893. Is "The Young Whaler" the book version of this earlier serial? And is the 1890 **The Boy's Library** printing mentioned above another version, or reprint, of "The Young Whaler?"

The book length stories seem to be similar in titles and from the evidence presented here, without seeing and comparing the actual publications, it is almost impossible to say that we have different stories or changed titles.

We refer again to George H. Coomer's obituary in the Saturday, January 5, 1901 issue of the **Warren Gazette**, Warren, R. I. Since at his death he was living with a niece, a Mrs. Henry H. Munro, and since a widow or even a marriage is not mentioned, we may assume that George never married.

To quote: "In the death of Mr. George H. Coomer, which occurred last Wednesday morning (January 2, 1901—at the age of 75 years, 19 days) at the residence of his niece Mrs. Henry H. Munro on Metacom Avenue, with whom



he made his home, the community loses one who has been an important factor in its history for the past half century. . . From 1872 to 1878 he was editor of the *Warren Gazette* and during the last two years of this period was a joint proprietor of the paper. His editorials were widely copied by contemporaries both within and without the state. He possessed a fascinating style, simple and unique, which compelled the perusal of everything he wrote. Newspaper work was not wholly congenial to him and he discontinued it for magazine literature. Mr. Coomer was of a sensitive nature, gentle and refined. He never intentionally spoke or penned a word calculated to wound a fellow being. He dreaded public mention and never would accept any form of public recognition. Despite the heartily expressed appreciation of his friends in whom he reposed confidence, he held his own work in slight estimation, and this alone prevented him from establishing a much wider literary reputation, to which his work and abilities entitled him.

"For the past twenty-five years he made his home with his niece, Mrs. Munro, whose congenial literary tastes were a solace to the author and rendered his life very happy . . ." Could Mrs. Munro have been any connection of the publishers of the same name? Here is a challenge for anyone living near or within easy traveling distance of Warren, R. I., to seek out what he may have written for the *Warren Gazette*.

It is difficult, with the changes during the years of public taste and modes of living, to pass judgment at this late date. His sea stories, both short and long, were much more interesting and better written than, say, the next book mentioned. The first book found by this writer, "*The Mountain Cave; or, The Mystery of the Sierra Nevada*," was hardly his best writing, at times the reader could smile at its naivete, but it was the same year (1887) that he first had "*The Boys in the Forecastle*" published by Munsey. This strikes one as being a much better written book than "*The Mountain Cave*." The other book length which we have read, "*The Young Whaler*," also shows more skill and experience in the writing.

But this recorder's final judgment is that George H. Coomer was at his best as a poet and in this we agree with the *Warren Gazette's* "Mr. Coomer was of a sensitive nature, gentle and refined."

Given a few more years, some of us will find more of George H. Coomer's published writings, especially what he may have done for the *Gazette* as well as what may be hidden away in *Harper's Magazine* and what may still remain to be discovered in *Ballou's Monthly Magazine* and *The Youth's Companion*. We would suppose that the *Boston Cultivator* is gone beyond recall?! And in this record there are gaps in *Argosy*, but after its change of format with Vol. VII, it doesn't hold out much hope.

A short resume of what we have chronologically covered here:

- December 13, 1825—George H. Coomer was born in Bristol, R. I.
- Sometime between 1825 and 1851 he wrote verse for the *Boston Cultivator*.
- 1851—he published, himself, his book "*Miscellaneous Poems*."
- 1868-83—we find him in *Ballou's Monthly Magazine*.
- 1872-78—he was editor of the *Warren Gazette*.
- 1880-94—he wrote for *Golden Days*.
- 1885-88—verse and one story in *The Youth's Companion*.

Other publications are unclear as to whether they were original first sales or reprints. We have not found an opportunity to check most publications either completely, or at all—*Harpers Magazine* is a case in point. Nor are we aware of what beside editorials he may have done for the *Warren Gazette*. And what else might we have missed?

Collectors of our "so-called" juvenile literature know that it was not "great writing"; rarely even, passably fair writing. This is no great mystery.



The writer usually wrote for popular reading, to please his audience, and the publisher sought to sell his publications by supplying that which the readers would be willing and ready to buy. Profits came through continued and growing circulation, and this meant more and more new material for the public. The reader-buyer wanted a choice of action, thrills and, for want of a better description, an all-American hero to identify with. (Ideas of heroes change with time, too!)

We repeat, the publisher was interested in sales. The writer aimed to meet the publishers' (and readers') demands. This did not require good writing, or even careful writing. All that was expected was a large output of salable writing.

This is where, we believe, that George H. Coomer was a leader in his own field—as a poet. Poetry was never, not even today, a money maker, either for the poet or the publisher. Offer a book manuscript to your 'friendly' publisher and see for yourself. If Coomer published his own book of verse and met the costs out of his own pocket (today it is called a "vanity press") it must have been because it was a labor of love.

In this recorder's opinion, he proved he could write poetry.

His second "love," or maybe it was just a profession, was whaling and the clean air of the adventurous sea. Here again this writer believes that George H. Coomer succeeded in getting "action" down on paper—making allowances for the changes in style and taste from those days to these.

George was a good poet and probably a good sailor. Let us be happy that such a sensitive, gentle and refined writer was able to share his gifts with our grandparents, or great grandparents, when they were children.

We conclude our chronological listing with this last fact:

January 2, 1901—George H. Coomer died at the age of 75 years, 19 days.

### THE END

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

311. F. William Black, 6025 Lafreniere St., Metairie, La. 70003 (New address)

365. Dr. Darrell C. Richardson, 899 Stonewall St., Memphis, Tenn. 38107

(Former member)

366. John Dinan, 141 Ipswich Road, Topsfield, Mass. 01983 (New member)

335. William E. Buechel, 7369 East Main St., Lima, N.Y. 14485 (New address)

### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

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Free, samples, compliment,	2	2
News agents, not sold	0	0
Total distribution	351	350
Office use, leftover, etc.	199	200
Total	550	550

I certify that the statements made by  
me above are correct and complete.

Edward T. LeBlanc



**STANDARD LIBRARY REFERENCE BOOKS FOR THE BOOK COLLECTOR****by Jack Bales**

The idea for this article grew out of a comment by Denis Rogers in the January 15, 1972 issue of the *Dime Novel Round-up* (p. 13). Discussing the Garfield Library Algers, Rogers noted that, "He [Stanley Pachon] believes that there is one complete run of 'Young Israel' in a Hebrew University Library in the Midwest, but, in the absence of any more information, it has not been possible to check out what must be regarded as an idea sufficiently promising to merit vigorous follow up by some Alger enthusiast not too remote from the area of potential research."

As a student of library science at the University of Illinois, I knew which source would answer the above problem, and in my course work I had come across many other standard library tools—valuable books that I previously never knew existed and which have aided me in my own research in the area of Horatio Alger's works.

The source to consult in order to locate holdings of magazines is the five volume set of the *Union List of Serials in Libraries of the United States and Canada*. Under the title of each periodical there is a listing of all libraries owning copies of that particular magazine. What is especially attractive about this tool is that the libraries' holdings are minutely detailed. For example, if a library only owns volume 2, volume 3-10, and volume 12 of a serial, all this is noted after the name of the library. In the instance previously mentioned, the Hebrew Union College Library in Cincinnati owns a complete run of *Young Israel*.

This set of books is useful to the researcher wishing to travel to the nearest library having the copies of the periodical he wishes to study. Or, if he cannot visit the library, oftentimes he can obtain photocopies of the desired material—a practice which is invaluable to scholars.

In the 1965 edition of the *Union List of Serials in Libraries of the United States and Canada*, 156,449 serials in 956 libraries are listed. For periodicals which commenced publication after December 31, 1949, *New Serial Titles*, published by the Library of Congress, is the book to consult.

When it is finished (in 610 volumes), the *National Union Catalog* will be the most monumental national bibliography in the world. Listings are completed (entry under author) for all books published after 1956, with the *Catalog* including the holdings of the Library of Congress and major libraries of the United States and Canada. However, for the *Pre-1956 Imprints* which is still being compiled, volumes only through the letter "J" are indexed. Thus, if you are looking for the libraries owning books by Horatio Alger, Jr. or Edward S. Ellis you're in luck, but you'll have to wait a while for holdings of Gilbert Patten's Frank Merriwell books to be published.

One can easily see the usefulness of this indispensable tool. In my research of Horatio Alger's works, I photocopied all the entries under, "Alger, Horatio, 1832-1899," with well over 600 being included. Each entry is a miniature catalog card, giving such bibliographic information as name of publisher, place of publication, illustrator (if known), size of volume, and number of pages. Furthermore, the library(s) which holds that particular book is noted.

Naturally, if a book were published by more than one company, it is likely that it will be listed more than once. For example, there are ten entries for Alger's *Risen from the Ranks*, with the following publishing companies listed: A. L. Burt, M. A. Donohue, A. K. Loring, J. C. Winston, Porter & Coates, Hurst, and Whitman. Thus, the researcher wishing to examine a particular edition can locate the one he wishes by studying the information in each catalog entry.



In tracing correct titles, names of publishers, dates of publication, and prices, two essential tools for the bibliographer are the **United States Catalog** and the **Cumulative Book Index**. The **United States Catalog** lists (or at least tries to) all books in print as of January 1, 1928, and is brought up to date by the **Cumulative Book Index**. Books are entered under author, subject, and title, all arranged in one alphabet, with the publisher and price always included. Another feature is the directory of publishers, which lists their street addresses.

However, there are two faults with these reference works. Occasionally one does not find mention of books that were in print since 1928, and of course the **United States Catalog** is naturally not always definitive for all books printed during the first quarter of the century.

The **Publishers' Trade List Annual** began in 1873, and it is a collection of yearly publishers' catalogs, alphabetically organized under the companies' names. This tool is handy for the scholar who desires a list of all the books in print and for sale by a particular publisher. In 1948 an index, **Books in Print**, was added, which has entries under author and title.

For those who wish to investigate the publishing companies themselves and the people who controlled them, the periodical **Publishers' Weekly** (since 1872) is clearly invaluable. Here one can locate the date a company was founded, who owned it, when it changed hands, what firm succeeded it, and other information of a similar nature.

Besides researching their favorite authors, many book collectors regularly visit bookstores across the country and the **American Booktrade Directory** can save countless hours of searching time. Issued biennially, it contains a list of booksellers arranged geographically so that one can locate all the bookstores in any city. Furthermore, the directory indicates the specialty (if any) of each store, and whether it deals with antiquarian or new books.

Other features of the **American Booktrade Directory** include a list of the addresses of publishers and bookdealers, a record of defunct publishing firms and the companies which succeeded them, names of dealers who specialize in foreign books, and names of auctioneers who handle literary property.

For directories of other countries, **Cassell's Directory of Publishing** deals with British publishers and **Publishers' International Year Book: World Directory** handles all nations.

Myriads of informative articles have been published in numerous magazines, and W. F. Poole, while a student at Yale University, was the first to index their contents. **Poole's Index to Periodical Literature** (1802-1906) is only a subject index (except for poems and stories which are entered under title), but is now being updated by the **Nineteenth Century Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature** (presently 1890-1899) which will cover the entire century when completed. This author and subject index of 51 leading periodicals of the 1900's, covers magazines not included in **Poole's Index** and does a more thorough indexing of some serials already in the latter reference work, especially those most likely to be in libraries today.

And lastly, for current material, the **Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature** (1900 to date) indexes over 160 popular magazines, with entries under author, subject, and oftentimes title. The **Readers' Guide** is published semi-monthly (except for July through August, when it is once a month), and each issue is regularly cumulated with other issues to form one large number.

Although the above reference works are standard tools in numerous libraries, it is likely that some libraries (especially small public ones) do not own them all. For example, the **National Union Catalog, Pre-1956 Imprints** costs many thousands of dollars and only the college, university, or very large public library can afford this bibliographic set. Also, the local library with little if



any nineteenth century periodicals undoubtedly deems it unnecessary to purchase Poole's Index to Periodical Literature.

However, the majority of these reference books are in most libraries, and for the less common ones, the researcher can go to other libraries (particularly college or university ones) in his area, where he is apt to find the works he needs.

How do you locate all the libraries in your city and surrounding communities? Consult the American Library Directory, which is a geographically divided listing of all libraries in the United States.

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### A DIME NOVEL COLLECTOR'S BOOK SHELF

**CHEAP THRILLS**, The Amazing, Thrilling, Astonishing History of Pulp Fiction, by Ron Goulart. Arlington House, New Rochelle, New York. An excellent history of the pulp magazines, which according to the author, Ron Goulart, had their roots in dime novel publications. We tend to agree with him.

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### FOR SALE

A complete run of  
**TIP TOP WEEKLY**,  
also a complete run of the  
**NEW TIP TOP WEEKLY**  
As to condition and price, write

**Mr. L. Harding**  
172 Concord St., Portland, ME 04103

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Back numbers Reckless Ralph's Dime Novel Roundup (quite a few reprints, can't be helped). Don't have the complete set of No. 1 to 237 inclusive, but almost, lacking only a few numbers. 10c each or \$21.00 postpaid. Have at least 230 numbers or more. Also two indexes, 1 Pioneer and Scouts of the Old West, Birthday number, War Library list and Dime Novel Catalog.

**Ralph F. Cummings**  
161 Pleasant St., So. Grafton, Mass.  
01560

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### WANTED

Western type dime novels, Merriwells, Nick Carters, Algiers, Altshers, Old Pulp.

**Charles Shepherd**  
1020 Milton Road  
Castle Shannon, Pa. 15234

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### OLD PULP MAGAZINES WANTED

and for sale, such as Doc Savage, Shadow, Spider, Phantom, Western Story, Wild West, G-8, Wings, science fiction, "spicy" mags and many others in the all-fiction field. Must be in excellent condition. What have you? Send list and price wanted.

#### Back Numbers

P. O. Box 214, Little Rock, Ark. 72203

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### FOR SALE

Merriwell stories in Tip Top Weekly. Early and late numbers. Send want list; too many to catalog. Good condition and reasonable prices. Also WANTED: in nice condition, Nick Carter stories in Magnet and New Magnet Library and Merriwell stories in Medal and New Medal Library and Merriwell series.

#### GUINON

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